ATTENTION

THE FOREST LANE USERS GROUP HAS MERGED WITH THE MID-CITIES USERS GROUP BASED IN ARLINGTON, TEXAS.

PLEASE MAKE THE APPROPRIATE CHANGES IN YOUR RECORDS.

OUR NEW MAILING ADDRESS IS AS FOLLOWS:

MID-CITIES/FLUG USERS GROUP
313 MELORINE DR.
GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS
75051-4138

ADDRESS CHANGE

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THE F.L.U.G

TI ROUNDUP

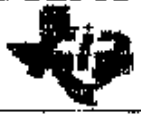
THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF

THE FOREST LANE T.I. USERS GROUP - DALLAS, TX

SUPPORTING

USERS OF THE TI-99/4A

AND COMPATIBLES



****
** OFFICERS, and important people **
****

PRESIDENT: FLUG~ Oscar Smith (in the Bahamas)

Mid-Cities Group~ Don Stevenson (214)227-3819

NEWSLETTER Libr./Ed. & all-around nice guy: Marty McCain (214)262-9452 (214)262-5914

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR:

Seasons' Greetings..... This makes the last issue for the 1989 year (Thank goodness!!) And of course, it is just in time (only a few weeks past due.) But I will make no apologies for the belatedness. Just enjoy and learn something. As far as club activities go: I just got off the phone with Eric Zeno, after discussing the ZenoBoard with him. Our orders should be out by the time you get this, and we will hopefully have them by the next meeting, JANUARY 14th, 1990. For those of you who ordered, and you know who you are! , call me and I'll let you know what the plans are with them.

Season's Greetings

and a

HAPPY NEW YEAR

GRANDSCAM

A CASE OF VAPORWARE

Dated: 02/28/88
Richard A. Fleetwood

....Yesterday I called Databiotics again to get the status of our order for six Grandrams. After talking to Bill Mosied, he transferred me to Mike Evanbar, who is responsible for keeping track of all orders and shipments. Mike and I talked at length about the Grandrams, Innovative Programming, Galen Reid, and Databoitics. He was quite helpful, and seemed very sincere in his answers, and he held nothing back, answering some very pointed questions.

According to Mike, the Grandrams have actually started shipping. Quantity? An even dozen- 6 the first week, and 6 this past week. After 2 months of heavy testing of the boards, they finally passed all final tests and beta usage. The biggest delay has been caused by Innovative Programming, run by Galen Reid. Galen was contracted to write the software for the card., after development and hardware was done by Paul Urbanus. Galen screwed up, didn't do what he promised, and broke the terms of the contract. Databiotics yanked all work away from Galen, and contracted again with Paul to finish the software. While all this was going on, Innovative was still taking orders for the Grandrams, upwards of $10,000 worth, according to Mike. (over $2000 just from the two local Dallas user groups (FLUG and DTIHCG). Innovative gave Databiotics a down payment of $1500, a partial list of customer orders, and nothing else.

At this moment, Databiotics is preparing a lawsuit against Galen to recover all the names and cash. For those who ordered and have not received anything, contact Databiotics. Mike said that Databiotics will see to it that al orders will be filled, and is accepting the loss (if there is one) on this first year of production. As for shipping dates, Mike said they are taking delivery of the first big production run of 100 boards this week (Mar.1-5th), which will take 7-10 days for stuffing and testing. Docs for kits and complete boards are not complete yet either, but will be done shortly. Mike says that all outstanding orders will be fulfilled in 3 to 4 weeks.

(This letter was printed in response to recent query into the state of the UNFULFILLED orders. This issue needs to be pressed and promises made good. Any ideas or advice would surely be appreciated as some plan of action must be taken! -Ed.)

Decimal/hex conversion charts

This chart converts hex numbers from 0 to FF to decimal and vice versa

Hex to decimal
To convert a hex number to decimal read along the row for the first hex digit in your hex number and down the column for the second hex digit. The number where the row and column meet is the decimal equivalent for your hex number, e.g. hex A1 is decimal 161.

Decimal to hex
To convert a decimal number to hex, find the decimal number in the chart. Then read back along the row for the first hex digit and up the column for the second hex digit e.g. 154 is 9A.

First hex digit \ Second hex digit	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F
0	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
2	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
3	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63
4	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79
5	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95
6	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111
7	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127
8	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143
9	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159
A	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175
B	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191
C	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207
D	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223
E	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239
F	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255

TI-99/4A-GENEVE QUIZ

BY MIKE DODD

This quiz is designed to test your knowledge of the TI/9640 computer community. Some of the questions will be more difficult than others. Scoring information is at the end.

1) Most TI users do not watch soap operas because:
   a) The average TI user does not have time.
   b) The average TI user is always watching soap operas.
   c) The infighting in the TI community is far more interesting than a soap opera.

2) Home Computing Journal was an attempt by Gary Kaplan to:
   a) Produce a timely, informative magazine covering many computers.
   b) Help human-kind by advancing computer literacy.
   c) Make tons of money and skip town fast.

3) TI's departure from the computer community was most probably due to:
   a) A failure to promote the advanced hardware of the TI-99/4A.
   b) A failure to communicate between engineering and marketing.
   c) A failure to comprehend just how bent on revenge Jack Tramiel (then-owner of Commodore) was.

4) Delphi has attractd many of the top programmers because of:
   a) The ease of using Delphi.
   b) The friendly people on Delphi.
   c) Jeff Guide's willingness to give out free flags.

5) MYARC's most probable response to a user's complaint that his machine was not working is:
   a) Check all your connections and clean the contacts.
   b) Send it in right away; we'll fix it.
   c) It's a software problem--wait for the next system release (two weeks).

6) HyperCopy was created because:
   a) The author had an earnest desire to poeroduce quality software.
   b) The users had requested such a program.
   c) The author was broke and loathed the idea of working for MacDonalds.

7) CorComp's problems were due to:
   a) Unintentional corporate mismanagement.
   b) Evil spirits bent on destruction that invaded their products.
   c) Simple dishonesty.

8) A certain TI company isn't going to be mentioned here because:
   a) It is a great company.
   b) I'm a good friend of the vice-president.
   c) I don't want to be sued.

9) Terrie Masters is one of the most respected members of the TI community due to:
   a) Her incisive commentaries on current events.
   b) Being editor of one of the largest TI newsletters.
   c) No sane person would dare to cross her.

10) If MICROpendium reviews several programs,all of which get high marks,it is:
   a) Due to the sterling quality of all TI programs.
   b) Because the excellent documentation far makes up for any shortcomings in the program itself.
   c) A typical issue.

11) Most programmers await Harry Brashear's articles and reviews with:
   a) Great anticipation due to his skill as a writer.
   b) Complete apathy.
   c) A plane ticket to New York and automatic fire arms ready.

12) People await each new release of Telco with:
   a) Eager anticipation, recalling the new features the last update offered.
   b) Hopefulness that it will add script capability.
   c) Dread, recalling how long it took to download the thing last time.

13) People await each new release of Funnelweb with:
   a) Eager anticipation, recalling the new features the last update offered.
   b) Hopefulness that it will add some of your requested new features.
   c) Dread, recalling how long it took to download the thing last time.

14) The biggest cause in delays in releasing programs by Paul Charlton is due to:
   a) His desire to eliminate all bugs before release.
   b) His desire to add as many new features as possible.
   c) His dread at the thought of having to write documentation.

15) TI owners criticizing others for buying non-TI computers are most similar in amount of zeal to:
a) Ronald Reagan criticizing Russia.
b) Michael Dukakis criticizing George Bush.
c) Ayatollah Khomeni criticizing Salman Rushdie.

16) Mike Dodd's typical reaction upon opening a letter and finding the word "PRBASE" in it is:
a) "I sure hope I can help this person."
b) "<sigh> Another one."
c) "Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaarrrrrrrrrrggggggggggggbbbbbbbbbbbbbb!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!"

17) Paul Charlton's GIF and Picture Transfer programs have made the most money for:
a) Paul Charlton.
b) Genial Computerware.
c) Compuserve, who suddenly had several hundred people downloading huge picture files (in number probably about twenty times as many people who actually paid for the fairware version.

18) When people ask how to access the low level disk I/O functions, it is usually because:
a) They are on a constant quest for new knowledge.
b) They are interested in trying to gain more speed from their disk controller.
c) They want to break every copy protection left in existence.

19) MYARC probably increased the price on their HFDC card:
a) Due to rising chip prices.
b) Because of the decision to add a tape backup circuit.
c) Just for the hell of it.

20) This entire quiz was written:
a) Because the author wished to write a short humorous article.
b) It was an English assignment.
c) The author felt guilty about not uploading anything to Delphi in a while.

SCORING INFORMATION

In case you haven't noticed, the correct answer is (c) on every question. Note: If you looked at this section first, then you obviously deserve more points than those who played by the rules (which is boring anyway). Give yourself something that is somewhat more than 20 points.

Correct	Diagnosis
0	You obviously have absolutely No sense of humor. Get one.
1-5	A start, but you're still probably a boring person.
6-10	Maybe watching something funny (e.g. The Holy Grail) would help.
11-15	Maybe you're mentioned in this quiz and weren't flattered...
16-19	Excellent! You have obviously kept up with the comings and goings in the TI/9640 ~~community~~ carefully.
20	You cheated.
21-	Since you obviously REALLY cheated, go treat yourself to something really nice .... you need it bad.

(May be freely distributed provided the file is distributed in full and without modification. Credit must be given to Mike Dodd and Dephi's TI Net.)

ONE LINERS.

By Tony Falco
(MUNCH Newsletter)

One liners are an exercise which develops programming skill. By their obvious limitation in size they must be compact and efficient. The three one liners which follow all have to do with the number pi. That elusive, non-ending , non-repeating decimal which approximates the ratio of the circumference to the diameter of any circle.

The first does low resolution graphics designs. The designs are in reality plots of graphs of polar functions. Complete execution of the program takes about 22 minutes.

The second one approximates pi by randomly tossing imaginary "darts" at a square which has a circle inscribed in it. The darts always land in the square, and by counting how many end up inside the circle we can calculate pi because the probability of a dart hitting inside the circle is pi divided by 4. After each 20 tosses the program reports the number of tosses and the approximate value of pi. The longer it runs the better the approximation. The program is stopped by using FCTN 4.

The last program starts by considering a regular hexagon (six equal sides and six equal angles). We use its perimeter as an approximation for the circle's circumference. We then repeat the process (that is we calculate the perimeter) for 12 sides, 24 sides, 48 sides and so on doubling the number of sides each time and stopping when the number of sides reaches 6,144. (That is pretty close to a circle). Try this one on another brand of computer and compare the value obtained with the actual value of pi. You will see how accurate your TI is compared to other machines.

```
1 CALL SCREEN(2)::FOR P=3 TO 30::CALL CLEAR::CALL COLOR(2,P/2+1,1)::FOR A=0 TO 5*PI
  STEP PI/36::   R=11*SIN(P*A/2)::CALL HCHAR(12-R*SIN(A),17+R*COS(A),42)::NEXT
A::NEXT P
1 N=N+1::RANDOMIZE::X=RND::Y=RND::H=H-(X*X+Y*Y<=1)::IF N/20=INT(N/20) THEN
PRINT "TOSSES=";N;"PI=";4*H/N::::::GOTO 1 ELSE 1
1 CALL CLEAR::PRINT "# OF SIDES","PI":::::::N=6::S=1::FOR X=1 TO 11::PRINT
N,S*N/2::N=2*N::S=SQR(2-SQR(4-S*S))::NEXT X
```

PLEASE SEND ALL CORRESPONDANCE AND EXCHANGE NEWSLETTERS TO :

FLUG / Mid-Cities User Groups ● 313 Melorine Dr.● Grand Prairie, TX 75051-4138

MEETING INFO

Our meetings are held on the second Sunday of every month at 2:00 p.m. at the Parks Mall in Arlington, Texas. The mall is located off of Interstate 20 and Cooper St. (FM 157). We have the meetings in the Community Room, which is located next to Sears on the south end of the mall.

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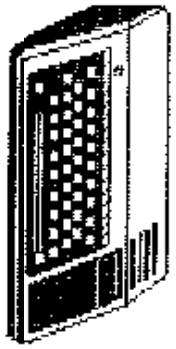
CLUB INFORMATION

The group was established to help the users of the TI-99/4A gain the full potential of their computer. The group provides the services of equipment sales, software/hardware help, repair, access to a large PD library of useful and entertaining programs, newsletter library access, demonstrations, and general fellowship with users linked by this common interest, the TI-99/4A.

Membership to the group is prorated at $20 per fiscal year, and entitles full benefits of the group. Please inquire if you have any questions. We invite you to visit our meetings, held as described in the above section. Any members may be contacted by phone(officer ph#s printed) or we welcome queries in writing to the above address. JOIN US AND ENJOY YOUR TI!!!



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